

# **Autumn Opera Scenes**

Martin Lloyd-Evans director Ashok Gupta music director Ceci Calf designer Lili Warden lighting designer

#### **Silk Street Theatre**

Please make sure that digital devices & mobile phones are silenced during the performance.

Eating is not permitted in the auditorium. Drinks are allowed inside the auditorium in polycarbonates.

Filming or recording of the performance is not permitted.

Latecomers will be able to enter the auditorium at a suitable break in the performance.

#### **Guildhall School of Music & Drama**

Founded in 1880 by the City of London Corporation.

#### **Chair of the Board of Governors**

The Hon. Emily Benn

#### **Principal**

Professor Jonathan Vaughan FGS

#### **Vice-Principal & Director of Music**

Armin Zanner FGS

#### **Interim Director of Production Arts**

Hansjörg Schmidt

#### Welcome

Please note the Scenes will contain depictions of war, physical violence and sexual manipulation.

Audience members in some seats may experience a small amount of soft, harmless debris falling during the performance.

There will be haze, loud noises and use of pyrotechnics, and there will be flashing lights.

The performance will last approximately 1 hour and 50 minutes, including one 15-minute interval.

#### **Digital Programme**

Access our digital programme for biographies, programme notes and more. Scan the QR code or visit:

www.guildhall-programmes.co.uk/2025-autumn-opera-scenes



Guildhall School is provided by the City of London Corporation as part of its contribution to the cultural life of London and the nation.



## **Programme & Synopses**

### **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

La clemenza di Tito

Scenes from Act 2

Annio Sesto Vitellia Publio

Cecily Shaw Marianne Ruel Zoë Jackson Oliver Williams

Repetiteur

Alicia Hernández Huebra

Outside near the Capitol

The emperor Tito is believed dead, assassinated during an attempted coup. But, in the ensuing chaos, the young advisor Annio is certain he has seen him alive and unharmed. His efforts to convince Sesto of this meet with utter disbelief as Sesto, generally considered to be a man of integrity and loyal to Tito, reveals he was the author of the assassination attempt. Annio begs him to go to Tito and plead for clemency.

Sesto remains, unsure what to do, when Vitellia appears demanding he should flee Rome. It was she who manipulated Sesto into attempting to overthrow Tito, and she is fearful her involvement will be uncovered if he remains. But she is too late. Publio comes to arrest Sesto, revealing that the person Sesto attempted to murder was a decoy. The decoy survived the attack and so Sesto's guilt has been exposed. Vitellia is mortified he will betray her, while Sesto rails at her, demanding that she never forget how much he loved her.

#### **Gaetano Donizetti**

Roberto Devereux

Act 3 Duet

Sara Servant Duke of Nottingham

Cecily Shaw James Emerson Twm Brunton

Repetiteur

Alicia Hernández Huebra

The Duke of Nottingham's London apartments

Sara is awaiting the return of her husband, the Duke of Nottingham, when a letter is delivered. It is from Roberto Devereux, Sara's would-be lover and erstwhile favourite of the queen. He has fallen foul of the authorities and has been condemned to death. With the letter comes a ring which he says, if presented to the Queen, will save his life. As Sara turns to go, her husband appears. He demands to read the letter, and asks about the ring, wondering when she received it. He is convinced of his wife's infidelity, and that Roberto gave it to her during a romantic assignation.

They hear Roberto's funeral procession outside. Sara begs Nottingham to let her go to save Roberto, but he is implacable, telling her that his house will be her prison.

#### **Gaetano Donizetti**

La favorita

Duet from Act 1

FernandoInesLeonoraSebastian HillZoë JacksonMarianne Ruel

Repetiteur

Alex Dakin

A private room

Leonora is the King's mistress. But she has been having a clandestine affair with a young man, Fernando, who has given up everything to pursue his passion for her. He knows nothing, however, of her relationship with the King. Nor even her name...

Fernando is shown into a room where he will find the anonymous woman with whom he has been having a very secret passionate affair. He asks Ines to reveal her name, but she refuses, hinting that the whole situation is perilous.

Leonora emerges, and Fernando, rejecting her advances, demands to know who she is. In an attempt to assuage the fear he reads in her eyes, he asks her to marry him. She says she loves him, but she must refuse. Clearly agitated, she gives him a letter saying that it will guarantee him a future, but that he must finish the affair and leave her. His remonstrations are interrupted when Ines bursts in and says the King has arrived. She begs Fernando to leave.

## **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

Don Giovanni

Scenes from Act 1

Donna Elvira Don Ottavio Zerlina

Laura LeVoir Sebastian Hill Marianne Ruel

Donna AnnaDon DiovanniZoë JacksonTwm Brunton

Repetiteur

Alex Dakin

The night before... Don Giovanni, in disguise, assaulted Donna Anna. During his escape her father was killed. Some time later the next day in a public place...

Donna Elvira has travelled to the city to track down her former lover, Don Giovanni. Seeing him chatting up yet another girl, she intervenes, and tries desperately to persuade the girl that he is utterly untrustworthy.

As Don Giovanni goes to leave, he runs into Don Ottavio and his fiancée, Donna Anna. Not recognising him as her attacker, Donna Anna asks for Don Giovanni's help. As he comforts her, Donna Elvira returns and feels compelled to convince them of his treachery. Don Ottavio and Donna Anna are increasingly convinced by her story, despite Don Giovanni appearing to be an upright and respected member of society.

#### Interval (15 minutes)

### **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

Così fan tutte

Act 2 Scenes 2-5

FiordiligiDon AlfonsoFerrandoLaura LeVoirOliver WilliamsSebastian Hill

DorabellaDespinaGuglielmoCecily ShawMarianne RuelJames Emerson

#### Repetiteur

Alicia Hernández Huebra

Ferrando and Guglielmo have entered into a bet with Don Alfonso to prove the fidelity of their girlfriends. They've faked their own departure, and are now in disguise to attempt to seduce their respective partners. Meanwhile, Alfonso has enlisted the help of Despina to persuade the women that, in the absence of their boyfriends, a little romantic 'diversion' would not really be so bad.

The women contemplate Despina's advice, and reveal which of the two strangers they prefer. Their excited anticipation is interrupted by Alfonso, calling them to come and see an extraordinary entertainment the two strangers have laid on.

Charmed by the silliness of the men's offering, and with some encouragement from Alfonso and Despina, the couples pair off according to the women's wishes.

Guglielmo is left with Dorabella, and offers her a heart. She accepts, and he asks for hers in return...

### **Georges Bizet**

Les pêcheurs de perles

Act 3 Opening

Zurga Leila

Twm Brunton Laura LeVoir

Repetiteur

Alex Dakin

A remote sect

Head of the community Zurga has condemned his old friend, Nadir, to death. The reason given publicly is because Nadir has broken the rules by visiting the Priestess Leila. Privately, however, Zurga was driven by jealousy as he, as well as Nadir, has fallen for her.

As a storm abates, Zurga questions his own motives and is ashamed of his decision.

Leila comes to see Zurga. She has come to ask for mercy for Nadir, and to offer herself in his place. Her confession of her love for Nadir inflames Zurga, and he rages at her. He confesses he is driven by jealousy and that her loves her. Leila is appalled, and storms out.

#### **Gian Carlo Menotti**

The Consul

Act 1 Duet

MagdaJohnMotherZoë JacksonJames EmersonCecily Shaw

#### Repetiteur

Alicia Hernández Huebra

An apartment in the capital city of an oppressed state

The police have been searching for insurgents. John Morel has evaded them so far, and bursts into the apartment, wounded. His wife Magda tries to attend to him, but he is hurrying to leave, planning to escape across the border. He says he will send for her, but that she must get travel documents for her and their son.

As he prepares to leave his wife, his mother and his baby son, all three grasp at hope in the face of an increasingly bleak outlook.

Synopses by Martin Lloyd-Evans.

## **Production Team**

Opera Department Students and Fellows

Repetiteurs

Alex Dakin Alicia Hernández Huebra

**Additional Staff** 

French Language Coach

Héloïse Bernard

Italian Language Coach

Emma Abbate

Freelance

Freelance Production Sound Engineer

Max Gamble

Hair and Makeup Supervisor

**Debbie Purkis** 

**Production Arts Students** 

**Production Manager** 

Jasmin Weekes

**Assistant Production Managers** 

Muiris Capon-Telford

Poppy Inglis

Stage Manager

Summer Minnott

**Deputy Stage Manager** 

Kezia Reynolds

**Assistant Stage Managers** 

Mary Dorain (Book Cover)

Rachel Butterly

Jonathan Desmares-Vaury

Lola Ringer

**Production Electrician** 

Iris Farquharson

**Lighting Programmers** 

Elliott Stradling

Isabel Taxman

**Technical Manager** 

Beau Morton-Turner

Technical Assistant/Automation Operator

James Broadhurst

**Props Coordinator** 

Jasmine Green

**Lead Prop Maker** 

Imogen Marinko

**Prop Makers** 

Tia Alexandrou

Tommy Carroll

Lara Jaques

Harris Johnston

**Scenic Art Coordinator** 

Christa Yap

**Lead Scenic Artist** 

Hawks Gómez Martínez

**Scenic Artists** 

**Emily Carden** 

Phoenix Lok Stallabrass

Izzy Lovelock

Nicole Thomaz

**Construction Manager** 

Seth Cunningham

Construction

Maisie Gamble

James Levy

Dan Quirke

Hannah Rhind

**Costume Supervisor** 

Nia Edwards-Williams

**Wardrobe Manager** 

Koren Little

**Costume Assistants** 

Katie Ball

Izabel Hessian

**Emily Wilson** 

**Costume Makers** 

River Charteris-Wright

Thailiyah Lindo

Hair & Makeup Assistant

Ellisia Paper

#### **Stage Crew**

working across our Opera and Drama productions this year:

Marvin Amrine Arden Arkwright CJ Avery Naomi Bleazard Charlotte Boother Dominguez

Autumn Star Bragg

AJ Brandt Isabella Br

Isabella Brugnoli Clara Clow Thea Cook

Evangeline Cuthbert Phoebe De Azevedo

Gillham Daisy Doughty Robin Draper Xuxu Elliott-Stuart Alex Emmens

Ciara Falola Cook

El Green Rina Grošelj Adam Gulamali Jago Hannen

Lizzie Harrington Vanille Henry Matthew Hill Linh Hoang

Ruby Hoffer Daisy Hollies Ciel Hook

Remée Hutchings Naomi Jansson Izzy Johnson
Monty Johnston
Annabelle Jones
Tom Kirby
Codie Lockyer
Maddison Loyns
Hazel Lum

Sian Lynch-Lewis Angus MacDonald

Jack Masters Katy Murray Devesh Nandwani Isaac Newman

Noah Philby Hannah Phillips Lacey Powers Zac Reynolds
Millie Roberts
Emily Rowe
Caspian Scrivens
Rebecca Seibert
Emily Short
Milo Thomas
Oscar Thomas

Matilda Thomas-Baruya

Megan Thurlby Axel Toms Elise Turner Madi Watts

Ava Whittington

# Guildhall School Production Arts Department

# Interim Director of Production Arts

Hansjörg Schmidt

#### Interim Programme Leader, BA Production Arts

Bex Snell

#### Programme Leader, BA Performance Design

Dr Susannah Henry

#### Programme Leader, BA Digital Design & Production

Pete Wallace

#### Programme Leader, MA Collaborative Theatre Production & Design

Dr Emily Orley

#### **Head of Costume**

Rachel Young

#### Head of Design Realisation

Vanessa Cass

#### Head of Stage Management

Helen Barratt

#### **Associate Producer**

Stuart Calder

# Outreach Manager (Production Arts)

Jon Hare

# Guildhall School Opera Department

#### **Head of Opera Studies**

Dominic Wheeler

#### **Resident Producer**

Martin Lloyd-Evans

#### Opera Department Manager

Steven Gietzen

#### **Visiting Music Coaches**

Lionel Friend Kate Golla

Alexander Ingram

Tony Legge

Michael Lloyd Elizabeth Marcus

Jonathan Papp

Linnhe Robertson

Peter Robinson Elizabeth Rowe

Susanna Stranders

#### **Drama Coaches**

Martin Lloyd-Evans Victoria Newlyn

#### **Movement Coaches**

Victoria Newlyn Rachel Wise

#### **Combat Coach**

Jonathan Leverett

# Language Coaches Florence Daguerre de

Hureaux

Johanna Mayr Emma Abbate

Lada Valešová

# **Guildhall School Scholarship Fund**

Each year the Scholarships Fund enables talented young actors, musicians, production artists and theatre technicians to take up their places or continue their studies at Guildhall School. We are extremely grateful to the many trusts, foundations, businesses, City livery companies and individuals who make annual donations to the Scholarships Fund, and to those people who make provision for legacy donations in support of the School in their wills. Production Arts and Opera students involved in this production who have received support from this year's Scholarships Fund and from external donors are as follows:

#### **Opera/Vocal Department Students & Fellows:**

Alex Dakin Margery & Frederick Stephen Wright Eisinger Award

James Emerson Rosemary Thayer Award, Innholders' Scholarship

Alicia Hernández Huebra Wolfgang Bruckner Scholarship

Sebastian Hill Girdlers' Scholarship, Tobacco Pipe Makers' Scholarship

Zoë Jackson Girdlers' Scholarship, Gwen Catley Scholarship

Laura LeVoir Gita Furber de la Fuente Prize, C & P Young Scholarship

Marianne Ruel Wallis Award, Elizabeth Sweeting Award

Cecily Shaw Sally Cohen Opera Scholarship

Twm Tegid Brunton *The Scouloudi Foundation* Scholarship

Oliver Williams Gwen Catley Scholarship

#### **Production Arts Department Students:**

Tia Alexandrou Guildhall Scholarship

Katie Ball Guildhall Scholarship

Rachel Butterly Guildhall Scholarship

Emily Carden Guildhall Scholarship

Tommy Carroll B&T Scholarship

River Charteris-Wright Guildhall Scholarship

Jonathan Desmares-Vaury Guildhall Scholarship

Mary Dorain Guildhall Scholarship

Nia Edwards-Williams The Diane Kelly Scholarship

Iris Farquharson Guildhall Scholarship

Maisie Gamble Guildhall Scholarship

Hawks Gómez Martínez Guildhall Scholarship

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# Forthcoming events

#### **Ubu Ensemble & Guildhall Percussion Ensemble**

4 December 2025 Silk Street Music Hall

Guildhall's boundary-pushing Ubu Ensemble, directed by Simon Wills, joins forces with the Guildhall Percussion Ensemble for a powerful evening of rhythm and resonance.

#### **Junior Guildhall Symphony Orchestra**

6 December 2025 Milton Court Concert Hall

Julian Clayton conducts a richly varied programme spanning impressionistic colour, sparkling virtuosity and symphonic power, including Shostakovich's monumental Symphony No 11 and Ibert's Flute Concerto featuring prize-winning Junior Guildhall flautist Kendra Barron.

#### **London Schools Symphony Orchestra**

12 January 2026 Barbican Hall

Nigerian-Scottish trumpeter Aaron Azunda Akugbo performs Armenian composer Alexander Arutiunian's showpiece mid-20th century trumpet concerto with its jaw-dropping moments in abundance.

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Thank you for your support, which ensures the most talented students can benefit from Guildhall School's world-class training in the performing arts, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Head to our Big Give page from midday on 2 December to midday on 9 December to donate and double your impact at no extra cost to you.\*



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Contact Zoe, Becca or Meg at development@gsmd.ac.uk or 020 4582 2415 if you need assistance.